



July - September 2007



LOUISIANA ENVIRONMENTAL LABORATORY ACCREDITATION PROGRAM (LELAP) UPDATE AND NEWS

EPA LAB CODES— To facilitate tracking Proficiency Test results, LELAP is requesting that each laboratory enter their EPA Laboratory Code when completing biannual proficiency tests. If a laboratory does not currently have an EPA Code, one can be obtained by contacting Mr. Charles Feldman of USEPA at 513-569-7631 or 513-569-7671. This does not apply to stack testers or geotechnical soil testers.

LELAP OUTREACH—LELAP is developing an outreach program called "Accreditation 101." The program will be conducted across the state and at each of LDEQ's regional offices and will commence in February 2008. Additional notification will be via email and letter.

LIST OF ACCREDITED LABS—The list of currently accredited LELAP laboratories has been updated on the LELAP web page: <http://www.deq.louisiana.gov/portal/tabid/2412/Default.aspx>. LDEQ LELAP Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) have been posted to the LELAP web page also.

OTHER NEWS—The annual LELAP assessors conclave was conducted October 10–11, 2007. Two key resolutions from this conclave were: establish an Intensive Management program for problem laboratories and to combine home-based and field assessments. Air Liquide America Corp. remains the only approved PT standard provider for stack, fugitive, and/or ambient air testers. LDEQ's Mobile Air Monitoring Laboratory (MAML) will be accredited by LELAP NLT January 2008.

TEXAS REGULATIONS UPDATED

Texas statutory requirements are going into effect requiring that commercial and some in house laboratories doing business in Texas be accredited by July 1, 2008. TCEQ strongly urges those laboratories to apply for accreditation by December 31, 2007. More information can be found at <http://www.tceq.com>.

METHOD INNOVATION RULE DRAFTED

The LDEQ regulations are currently being revised. To better align the LDEQ regulations with the current EPA regulations, the language has become more generalized, citing "appropriate methods" instead of the specific methods and revisions that will be acceptable for data submitted to LDEQ. The official rule will be published as a final document NLT December 2007.

QUARTERLY ANALYTICAL UPDATE

The LDEQ laboratory has conducted 38,205 analytical tests so far in CY2007. 13,883 of these analytical tests were performed during the third quarter of 2007. These analyses were conducted in the areas of General Chemistry, General Organics, Air Organics, Metals, and Radiation.

LABORATORY SERVICES DIVISION STAFF UPDATE

The following employees have recently joined the Laboratory Services Division staff — Drs. Jacqueline Prudente and Alicia Ryan in the LELAP section; two Environmental Laboratory Ph. D Interns from Southern University — Bianca King and Janana Snowden; and four student workers—Christopher Cotton, William Kahnya, Kim Dernovsek, and Alex Pines.

CLEAN METALS LABORATORIES ALMOST READY

LDEQ is preparing its clean metals laboratories for use in March 2008. The laboratories to be used for the analysis of trace metals are in the process of being certified as clean rooms. Standard Operating Procedures and instrumentation training will be complete NLT March 2008.

SDMS PURCHASED BY LDEQ LAB

A Scientific Data Management System (SDMS) manufactured by Waters, Inc. has been purchased by the LDEQ Laboratory. The SDMS will be installed in November 2007, and fully implemented by March 2008. The SDMS will take raw data directly from instruments and store it in an electronic format that can queried and reused, allowing for easier report consolidation of level three validation packages. It will also allow for easier data review by managers and supervisors.

We solicit your questions, comments, problems, and/or recommendations for this newsletter. Please send them to deqlaboratory@la.gov or call 225-219-9800.

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